

JAPAN NOT MENACING

Taft's Hint Regarding Battle Fleet Not German.

WAR WOULD ISOLATE NIPPON

Analysis of Far Eastern Potentialities Shows that Island Empire Would Have More to Lose Than Gain in Event of Rupture with This Country—Conflict Improbable.

It is an unpopular thing these days in Washington to suggest that the proposed continuation of the Atlantic fleet's voyage to the far East is an unwise move, equivalent to another pin prick in the sensitive flesh of a proud and suspicious people.

It is quite as unpopular to put forward the proposition that the decision to send the fleet to the Pacific Ocean was an egregious mistake, calculated to bring trouble in the end. No consideration of a desire to point out the dangers that may come from the parade of the fleet through far Eastern waters serves to excuse frank expression of opinions to those who are part of or close to the present Executive government of the United States.

Yet while the administration is condemning criticism of its policy in sending the battle-ship fleet to the Pacific, this condemnation is based on the claim that such criticism is bound to excite suspicion and distrust, Mr. Taft, the Secretary of War and the mouthpiece of President Roosevelt, is preaching the doctrine in his campaign addresses that the Oriental thinks as well as sees with his eyes, and it is necessary to give him meaning Japan—an acrid demonstration of Uncle Sam's sea power.

Just Showing Our Strength.

Just why it is necessary to give this demonstration has never been explained in an official way, but it is well understood that the display of anti-American sentiment in Japan and the interpretation placed on President Roosevelt's special message of last spring, in regard to the Japanese school question, were responsible in part for the decision to show the world that the United States had no reason to be afraid of anybody.

The President's utterances on the school question were construed in Japan and Europe as indicating that the United States would go to any extreme of pusillanimity to avoid a clash with the Japanese government. It was the time the reports of heavy purchases of war material by Japan had much to do with bringing about the decision that the fleet should proceed to the Pacific.

Before the departure of the fleet from Hampton Roads, it was pointed out in these columns that Japan's activity in the markets, where munitions of war are obtainable, was directed apparently by the situation in China and was not due to any intention to hostilities with the United States. That this view of the matter was correct is now acknowledged in official quarters. It is doubtful if there ever was a time when there was any serious danger of trouble between the two nations.

Japan's Policy Disquieting.

It is realized here, however, that at some time in the future conditions in China, and particularly in the Province of Manchuria, may assume an aspect that will cause disquietude in the capitals of many world powers.

According to information from many reliable sources, the preponderance of Japanese influence in northern China has been exerted to such an extent that foreign nations, which are entitled to equal treatment there, and themselves hampered seriously in conducting trade relations. American manufacturers, shippers, and merchants have been handicapped badly in their attempts to regain the trade which they lost at the beginning of hostilities between Russia and Japan, and they, as well as Chinese business men, have been making complaints to this government and petitioning that something be done to induce or compel Japan to live up to her agreement to observe the principle of the open door and preserve "the administrative entity" of the Chinese Empire.

No communication on this subject has been sent from Washington to Tokyo, and neither China nor any European government has approached the United States with a view to obtaining concerted action, as was pursued at the time of the Boxer troubles, when this government, through John Hay, Secretary of State, took the initiative in bringing about an understanding between the nations interested.

Her Hold on Child Menaced.

That Japan fears that her hold on China may be threatened is believed in well-informed circles here.

Loses 40 Pounds of Flesh in 40 Days.

Rengo, the Great Fat Reducer, Brings Happiness to Battle Creek Woman.

As an ordinary illustration of the wonderful results of "Rengo," mention is made of the case of Mrs. Ada L. Eskrine, who lives at 33 East Main street, Battle Creek, Mich.

Here is her loss in weight, bust, and waist measurement:

Before. After.

Weight—237 pounds..... 157 pounds
Waist—37 inches..... 24 inches
Bust—44 inches..... 40 inches

The following is a letter written by Mrs. Eskrine to the Rengo Co. at the end of only forty days' treatment:

"I can hardly believe my eyes when I look at myself now and realize how fat and ugly I was. I was not over two months ago. I feel as though I was in a new world. I feel so light and strong. It is all due to Rengo. I started it with little hope that I could ever get thin by it, because I had taken so many other things and failed every time. I did not mind a day while taking Rengo. I guess that was because it tasted so much like delicious candy.

"Every day that I lost flesh I felt myself getting more strength, so that to-day I can lift a great deal more, can do more work, walk upstairs quickly without getting tired, and do almost everything with the same energy and delight as when I was a girl. I am simply feeling fine, and if I can do any more than write you this letter, I certainly owe it to you to allow any fat person, who wants to place his or her confidence in some one and be reduced, to write to me and find out the truth.

"With lasting gratitude to you and Rengo, I am, yours cordially, Ada L. Eskrine."

This same experience can happen to you if you are overweight. You will be stronger, healthier, and happier.

For sale and recommended in Washington by H. Evans, 224 F. st. n.w., Atlantic Drug Store, 1429 Pa. ave. n.w., People's Drug Store, 324 Seventh st.

HUMAN TOLLS HEAVY

More Than 3,000 Lives Lost in Mines During 1907.

DEATHS DOUBLE IN A YEAR

Present Reports Indicate Total of Fatalities Will Exceed that Number—Increase in Injuries, Outside the Big Disasters, Also Shown—356 Miners Killed in West Virginia.

New York, Feb. 19.—Some pretty startling figures, with reference to the heavy recent increase in the deaths and injuries consequent upon accidents in coal mines, were presented to the American Institute of Mining Engineers this evening in a paper read before the institute at the New York Engineers Club by J. A. Holmes, chief of the technologic branch of the Geological Survey of the United States.

Complete reports regarding the coal mine accidents of 1907 have already been received from ten States and two Territories. Reports from Pennsylvania are not yet in, but about every other important coal mining State is represented in the figures. These show an increase of about 20 per cent in the number of men killed over the number that met the same fate in the same States and Territories in 1906. These figures do not include Pennsylvania, where 250 men were killed at the Larr mine last December.

"From information at present at hand," Mr. Holmes said, "it seems probable that an increase of 25 per cent in the number of fatal accidents will be shown for the year 1907 over the figures for 1906, without taking into consideration the four disasters of last December, in which 624 men were killed.

820 Men Killed in 1906.

"The figures from the States and Territories reporting show that 820 men were killed in the year 1906, and 978 in the year 1907, an increase in those States and Territories of 19 deaths for the year. If the States which have not yet reported keep up the present ratio of increase in deaths, the total number of fatalities for the year 1907, exclusive of the four big disasters, will be 2,490, which is 600 more than in 1906. Counting in the big disasters, the deaths will be more than 3,000, which will be a 50 per cent increase over the year 1906."

The figures regarding injuries are no less striking. The States and Territories so far reporting show an increase of more than 50 per cent in the number of men injured.

Illinois, West Virginia, and Ohio report the greatest number of fatal accidents, outside of Pennsylvania, 356 miners having lost their lives in West Virginia in 1907.

Disasters Chinese Labor.

A paper on the vexing question of Chinese labor in South Africa, which has been giving the British government so much trouble, by T. Lane Carter, an engineer employed in one of the big mines in the Rand, was read by Dr. Raymond, the institute's secretary, at the afternoon session.

Mr. Carter said that the action of the British authorities in refusing to allow the Chinese coolies to renew their contracts, a right guaranteed them in their original contracts, had caused a good deal of ill feeling, and that the Chinese felt exceedingly aggrieved. He thought that ultimately labor conditions in the Transvaal would force the British government to reverse its present attitude and import about 60,000 more Chinese.

CHAMPION STOWAWAY BACK.

Lad Deported Six Times Again Held at Ellis Island.

New York, Feb. 19.—Again the greatest boy stowaway and tramp known to the officers of the trans-Atlantic liners—a boy who, though only fifteen years of age, has traveled 6,000 miles and been six times deported from the United States—is in custody at Ellis Island. Regularly every three months, Benjamin Okard bolts up to plague Commissioner Watchorn, and the steamship Arcadia, plying between the Black Sea and New York, seldom starts on her long journey without him.

"I wonder if Benjamin is on board this time?" said the commander of the vessel when she sailed last week.

After a search in the steerage, Benjamin was there all right. He was put in irons and brought into port shackled and half-starved. The officers of the ship had refused to give him anything to eat, and he had lived up to within two days of his arrival here on the miserable food and steerage passengers. Being Russian peasants, they didn't leave much. Unless action follows quickly, the boy must go back to a life of misery in Russia.

FRAUD IN DEED ALLEGED.

Vanderbilt Kin Involved in Suit to Recover Property from Creditors.

New York, Feb. 19.—Trial of a suit brought by Samuel Riker, Jr., as trustee in bankruptcy of Edward E. Gwynne, nephew of Mrs. Cornelius Vanderbilt, and a cousin of Cornelius, Alfred G. and Reginald C. Vanderbilt, and the Countess Scheuch, to have set aside a deed made by Edward E. Gwynne to his mother, was begun to-day before Justice Dayton, in Special Term of the Supreme Court. The suit is directed against Helen S. Gwynne as administratrix of all the goods of Edward Gwynne; Franklin Steele as administrator of the estate of the late Edward E. Gwynne; and Helen S. Gwynne, as administratrix of the will of Louise Gwynne, and against Helen Steele Gwynne and other defendants.

Steele, for the trustees in bankruptcy asserts that the deed was without adequate consideration, and was a fraud upon the creditors of Edward E. Gwynne. The property involved is the house and grounds at 3 East Eighty-sixth street.

New Mexico Indorses Taft.

Albuquerque, N. Mex., Feb. 19.—Secretary Taft was unanimously indorsed by the Republican Presidential nomination by the New Mexico Republican Territorial committee in session here to-day. This action is equivalent to a Taft-Indorsement, and was without adequate consideration, and was a fraud upon the creditors of Edward E. Gwynne. The property involved is the house and grounds at 3 East Eighty-sixth street.

Not After the Times.

London, Feb. 19.—Moberly Bell, manager of the Times, declares that the story to the effect that an American syndicate is negotiating for the purchase of that newspaper is untrue.

King Peter's Life Insured.

Belgrade, Feb. 19.—Alarmed by the assassination of the King and crown prince of Portugal, King Peter to-day arranged for life insurance with a New York company in the sum of \$200,000.

HANDS ACROSS SEA AT GOTHAM DINNER

Continued from Page One.

precitated. There is no need, either, to say how much I appreciate the words of my distinguished predecessor, nor how glad we all are to see the spirit and grace with which he bears his new honors. I am not referring to The Hague; that was in the old line of business. What I mean is the honor of admission, worthily earned, to the immortal company of the "Men of '76." There is hardly a person about whom I shall have more inquiries when I get back to London."

After touching on an expression of regret made by his predecessor that no portrait of Benjamin Franklin was among those that adorned the rooms of the American Embassy in London, and promising to make it his duty to repair the omission, Mr. Reid continuing, said: "The work of this society, and of its London twin, is the same, and it is a work worthy of the great name they have both invoked."

Relations Are Pleasant.

"You probably know already, but still the assurance will not be unwelcome, that everything in the relations between the two countries is now substantially as you would have it. There are no serious complications. Business intercourse is more frequent and intimate, and good will towards us seems universal. Co-operation has become easy and natural in the most international movement in which both countries are concerned—as for example, in promoting efforts of peace, or in humanitarian movements for better conditions in the Congo, or for the restoration of the imperial opium traffic. Points long in dispute begin to appear. The oldest outstanding source of irritation between the two countries, a constant danger for a century and a quarter, is in the steady process of peaceful adjustment. In spite of the late declaration in the conference of colonial powers, that there was nothing in the fisheries question that could properly be referred to arbitration, the two countries, upon a proposal of the United States, have agreed to refer our differences about it to The Hague tribunal."

Demands a Little Time.

Mr. Morse, as soon as he received word of what was in the air, started to work. He and his counsel were up all Tuesday night, laying their wires. Mr. Morse was around early in the morning seeing the directors of the Mercantile National Bank. Apparently he succeeded in convincing them that it would be to their advantage to give him a little time, and the Bank of North America people were apparently left standing alone.

It may have been his success with the other complaining creditors that inspired in Mr. Morse a desire to tackle Receiver Hanna himself. Anyway he showed up at the National Bank of North America at 11:30 o'clock. Receiver Hanna was busy in one of the cages. Mr. Morse called to him, and together they entered the room at the rear of the bank, which used to be Morse's office.

Morse talked plainly to the receiver. He told him that he had come to see him, first, as the owner of 40 per cent of the stock of the bank. He and his family, he declared, controlled 8,000 of the 20,000 shares of stock, and as the owner of this stock he wanted to tell Mr. Hanna that he didn't believe it would be advisable to attempt to throw him into bankruptcy.

Feared Loss to Bank.

It would mean a loss to the depositor's and stockholders of the bank. Mr. Morse declared that the collateral held by the bank against his loan of \$25,000, under which all the attachments have been levied, was amply sufficient to cover the loan. It is understood that Mr. Morse contended that the collateral under present market conditions, was worth more than \$25,000.

Mr. Hanna pointed out that there was room for a wide divergence of opinion on that matter. They took up the list of collateral together and spent more than an hour going over it. Mr. Hanna, it is understood, contended that it was impossible to say what the collateral would bring until it was actually disposed of, for the last market quotations on many of the stocks, notably bank stocks, dated back so far that it was problematic what they would bring under the changed conditions.

Will Wait a Few Days.

The receiver and Mr. Morse went into a general discussion of the bank's affairs. It is understood that the receiver has consented to hold things in abeyance for a day or two until Mr. Morse is able to have another chat with him.

In the meantime, however, there will be a conference between one or two of the complaining creditors and Federal officials which may open the way for the filing of a petition even without a third creditor.

Morse, after he left the bank, hurried over to the office of Philip J. Britt, his lawyer.

While Morse was in conference with Receiver Hanna, his old partner in the United Copper Pool, F. Augustus Heinze, strolled through the corridor of the building. Somebody remarked to the ex-Copper King that Morse was inside the bank.

"Well, I'll be d—d," said Heinze, glancing at a notice posted on the door. But he declined to meet Morse.

Mr. Britt declared to-day that if any action is brought against Mr. Morse in the bankruptcy courts, they would reply in kind. He is not a bankrupt, and they would prove it, too.

JAPAN'S REPLY READY.

Ambassador O'Brien Gets Vote on Subject of Emigration.

Tokyo, Feb. 19.—The reply of the Japanese government to the note of the United States on the subject of emigration was to-day handed to Mr. O'Brien, the American Ambassador.

It is opposed by an influential section of the diet, representing powerful emigration companies, and it will probably have to fight a resolution censuring the government's policy toward China, the United States, and Canada. If the resolution is defeated it will be by a narrow majority. If it passes the cabinet will resign.

It is believed that Viscount Aoki, formerly Ambassador to the United States, is supporting the resolution. He is supposed to favor the Japanese minister Hayashi, whom he has not visited since his return from Washington. He has not reported to the foreign office concerning the situation at Washington.

FAIL TO ELECT A BISHOP.

Episcopal Gathering in Delaware Adjourns Until April.

Wilmington, Del., Feb. 19.—The special convention of the Episcopal diocese of Delaware, called to elect a successor to Bishop Coleman, met here to-day.

Six names were presented to the clerical branch, and after twenty-seven ballots had been taken without result, the convention was adjourned to meet in Dover on April 30. Rev. Nathaniel S. Thomas, of Philadelphia, led.

Slight Earthquake in Italy.

Rome, Feb. 19.—Slight shocks of earthquake have been felt in Calabria and Sicily since last evening. The seismographs remain agitated.

PARAGRAPHS BY WIRE.

Arkansas City, Kans., Feb. 19.—Wah Shun Gai, chief of the Kax Indians, is dead, aged eighty-eight.

El Paso, Feb. 19.—The Mexican government has raised the ban against the importation of rifles, providing the importers can show good cause for taking them in.

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Phoenix, Ariz., Feb. 19.—The world's record for shooting sheep by machinery has been broken near here by a man named F. Him, who cleared 35 sheep in nine hours.

New York, Feb. 19.—Married only five days ago at the city hall, General Biscoe tried to end his life by taking poison at 29 Prince street, saying that he did not love his bride and would not take part in the religious ceremony set for this afternoon.

Ocean Steamships.

New York, Feb. 19.—Arrived out: Oceania, at Cherbourg.

Left for foreign ports: Kaiser Wilhelm II, from Southampton; Majestic, from Southampton.

MORSE SCORES POINT

Ex-banker to Fight Bankruptcy Proceedings.

TALKS PLAINLY TO RECEIVER

Shows Mr. Hanna that Interests of All Concerned Can Be Conserved by Permitting Status Quo to Continue. F. Augustus Heinze Declines to Meet the Deported Ice King.

New York, Feb. 19.—Charles W. Morse gained an advantage to-day over Receiver Hanna of the National Bank of North America and his counsel. The receiver was one of the three creditors who had planned to petition the court to-day to have Morse put into involuntary bankruptcy. As a matter of fact, the Federal receiver was the moving spirit behind the proposed petition.

This petition was all drawn up Tuesday, and it was understood that two other creditors had consented to join in the action. One of these was the Mercantile National Bank, in which Morse was a stockholder and director before the process of elimination began. The third creditor was an individual holding a comparatively small claim.

The individual creditor went to Mr. Morse on Tuesday night, it is said, and gave him the details of the plan that was on foot in the hope of getting a settlement of his little claim. Whether he accomplished his purpose was not disclosed to-day, but no petition was filed against the ex-banker.

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ENGLAND HAS A WAR.

Troops Engage in a Brush with Unruly Tribe in India.

London, Feb. 19.—England's latest little war is an expedition under Gen. Sir James Willcocks from Rawalpindi recently to punish the Zakkachels, a powerful tribe of Afridis, on the northwest frontier of India, who have long annoyed the loyal tribes by murderous and destructive raids.

The British forces surprised the Zakkachels in a strong position on February 5 in the Bazar Valley and routed them, killing the chief who had led in the raid. This morning the British attacked and destroyed some fortified towers of the Zakkachels, and afterward, however, fired on the British, wounding three officers and four men.

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STORE HOURS, 8 TO 6. SATURDAYS CLOSE AT 9 P. M.

Hecht's

513-515-517 Seventh Street N. W.

WHERE YOU CAN HAVE IT CHARGED.

The Great Discount Sale of Furniture and Carpets.

The overwhelmingly important fact in connection with this immensely successful sale is that the entire great stocks are included. That's where it differs radically from all other similar sales—no other store in Washington invites you to make your selections from entire stocks, but limits you to a lot of showroom and practically unsalable goods. Just keep that point in mind when considering furniture buying at so-called sales. Bedding, springs, and kitchen cabinets are not included.

China Closets		Sideboards	
REGULAR PRICE	SALE PRICE	REGULAR PRICE	SALE PRICE
Quartered Oak.....	\$50.00	Quartered Oak.....	\$45.00
Quartered Oak.....	\$31.00	Quartered Oak.....	\$29.00
Quartered Oak.....	\$43.00	Quartered Oak.....	\$35.50
Quartered Oak.....	\$39.50	Quartered Oak.....	\$26.75
Quartered Oak.....	\$32.25	American Quartered Oak.....	\$19.50
Polished Oak.....	\$19.50		
Polished Oak.....	\$19.50		
Polished Oak.....	\$27.00		
Wardrobes		Dressers	
REGULAR PRICE	SALE PRICE	REGULAR PRICE	SALE PRICE
Golden Oak.....	\$31.00	Golden Oak.....	\$32.00
Golden Oak.....	\$24.50	Golden Oak.....	\$27.50
Golden Oak.....	\$18.50	Golden Oak.....	\$15.50
Golden Oak.....	\$18.50	Golden Oak.....	\$14.50
Gloss Oak.....	\$16.75	Bird's-eye Maple.....	\$29.50
Gloss Oak.....	\$15.25	Bird's-eye Maple.....	\$28.75
Gloss Oak.....	\$15.75	Mahogany finish.....	\$35.00
		Mahogany finish.....	\$28.00

MORE PAY FOR PROFESSORS.

Twenty-five Per Cent Increase to Chicago University Instructors.

Chicago, Feb. 19.—University of Chicago professors will receive a substantial increase in their salaries during the next university year, beginning July 1. The board of trustees of the school voted last night to add \$25,000 to the salary roll. The increase will raise the pay of teachers nearly 25 per cent.

The salary increase will be met with a part of the gift of \$250,000 received from John D. Rockefeller last month. One-half of the larger part of this gift, consisting of securities returning an annual income of \$80,000 and capitalized at \$200,000, will be used for salary increases within the next two years.

GOULD TO PROTECT ROAD.

Will Not Permit Receivership for Missouri Pacific.

New York, Feb. 19.—George J. Gould said to-day of stories that have been current in the West for several days: "Rumors of financial troubles in the affairs of the Missouri Pacific are ridiculous. As for a receivership, that would never under any circumstances be permitted."

There was a hard drive on all the Gould securities to-day.

The Missouri Pacific has about \$1,000,000 in interest payments due on March 1, 1908. It was said in informed quarters to-day that the road had the money to meet all its obligations in full.

WEATHER CONDITIONS.

U. S. Dept. of Agriculture, Weather Bureau.

Washington, Wednesday, Feb. 19.—8 a. m. Since Tuesday night the storm center has moved from Central Illinois to Southern New England, accompanied by heavy snow and rain. From the Missouri Valley and Upper Lake region eastward, from the Southern Upper Lake region and Northern Illinois eastward, the weather is fair, except in the Pacific coast, where rains continue.